

## **Gulf of Mexico Alliance Underserved and Underrepresented Populations Working Group Conference Call**

**Date: 4 March 2008 (Tuesday)**

**Time: 10:00AM Central (11 am Eastern)**

### **AGENDA**

1. Presentation of the Gulf of Mexico Alliance Diversity Project (Shelley Sparks BTNEP)
2. Brief Organizational Updates/News/Opportunities for Collaboration (All)
3. Update on EE Related activities of the Gulf Alliance (Lee)
4. Calendar Upcoming Events/Conferences/Funding Opportunity Deadlines (Greg)

### **Conference Call Participants**

- Olivia Aguilar
- George Dawson
- Shelly Sparks
- Andre Williams
- Kris Shipman
- Tina Miller-Way
- Greg Ira
- Kristy Jeffries
- Richard Gonzales
- Auburn Carpenter
- Tara Schultz

Shelly Sparks (BTNEP) Media Coordinator and the Gulf of Mexico Alliance Diversity Project

- Hold a Workshop (May 7-8 Ocean Springs, MS):
- Provide Mini Grants (up to \$5,000): Purpose to create viable tools. No improvements to private property or academic research. One mini grant for each Gulf State
- Follow-up Workshop (Feb 2009):

### **Organizational Updates**

1. George Dawson (FSU): Ecoventures: Learning on the Gulf  
(<http://garnet.acns.fsu.edu/~gdawson/EcoVentures/frames.html>).
2. Tara Schultz (TSA): Has seen/heard of ecoventures many years back ~2000
3. Richard Gonzales (TX Science and Spanish Clubs): Proposal to Children and Nature Network Proposal invited to submit a full proposal (Growing the Science and Spanish Club Network); May 10 Annual Leadership Conference in Corpus Christi, TX; April 19 Earth Day/Bay Day.

4. Lee Yokel: Education Stakeholders Meetings currently underway to survey EE providers about the future direction of the Gulf Alliance
5. Greg Ira: Gulf of Mexico Ocean Literacy Project Final Workshop (June 18-19, Tallahassee, FL)

### **Upcoming Events**

- NSTA: March 27-29, 2008, Boston, MA
- NMEA: July 21-24, 2008; Savannah, GA
- Next UUP Conference Call (every 1st Tuesday): April 1

### **Other Items**

**NEW COURSE!!**

#### **Making EE Relevant for Culturally Diverse Audiences**

This 10-week on-line course is designed to provide course participants with the basic knowledge and skills needed to make EE relevant to culturally diverse audiences. Through this course participants will broaden their perspective of EE to encompass interests and issues of concern to culturally diverse audiences, assess barriers to participation among culturally diverse audiences, and apply cultural competency skills in building relationships and partnerships with members of an audience they intend to work with in the future. Environmental educators must understand how to work with and involve diverse populations to ensure that their perspectives are heard and that they participate fully in environmental decisions being made at the local, regional, and national levels. This online course has been developed in collaboration with national EE experts who represent diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds. Although there are no prerequisites for this course, a working understanding of environmental education is essential for success in this course. Participants may obtain one undergraduate or graduate credit from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. It is also available as a non-credit workshop for those that are not seeking college credit. All participants, regardless of location, are eligible for the in-state tuition rate.

To learn more, contact Ali Cordie ([acordie@uwsp.edu](mailto:acordie@uwsp.edu)).

To learn more about EETAP visit the EETAP website at <http://www.eetap.org/>

Fall 2008 course dates: Check online course website for course dates

Ali Cordie

Online Course Graduate Assistant

Environmental Education & Training Partnership

University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

College of Natural Resources

Stevens Point, WI 54481

(715) 346-4748